



Discover ▾

[Log in](#) | [Sign up](#)

# The Girl At Kuzuna Shrine



👁 5 ✓ 0 ★ 1

## Chapter 1 by LonelyLuna2oo2

### Chapter 1:

I'm done. I finally reached the top. It seems like it took forever but I'll never find out because here it is, the shrine. The Kazuno shrine. I've come here to find answers.

Here I am and there she is. The one who answers your questions. She can help me and I know she will. She must.

But now I'm frozen, she looks at me with a stare that I'm too dumbfounded to break. And somehow I find myself staring back.

"I-I need your help." I finally say, cracking my voice a little in the process.

"I know. That's why you're here, is it not?" she has a soothing, soft voice that sounds like it would break if someone tried to touch it.

"Oh, yes, that's why I'm here."

"As expected." She says with barely noticeable disappointment. I was going to comment on the tone but she spoke before I could. "Now, if you would be so kind as to tell me what you need help with, that would be greatly appreciated."

I stare at her in much disbelief. I had never heard of a shrine spirit being so strait forward. "I am having trouble getting over something..."

"What would that be?" She cuts me off. But she had much curiosity in her eyes.

"My sister is sick and I want to help her, but..."

"But what?" She cuts me off again.

"I-I don't... I'm not sure how to help her." Saying the words came out of me with much effort. I don't know why I was so scared to say them. And this was in front of a spirit. I heard they don't

have feelings, so it's dumb they just tell you how to help yourself and give you advice. And sometimes they only tell you what you want to hear. I'm not sure they don't do that, I mean they're spirits they aren't supposed to lie.

"Oh, I see." The girl looks at me with a small smile. "I'm thinking about what I said. At least I hope she is."

See more of Story Wars

[Login](#)

or

[Create new account](#)

It takes a while for her to look back at me and in the mean time I carry myself up the last steps to the shrine. The posts are a light blue color that makes me think of dreams that I may have had when I was younger. There are vines growing around them and a view of Lake Tsukiko. And you can see the stretch of mountains in the distance. Wild flowers are blooming and the many blossom trees are too.

She looks back at me for a second and now that I'm closer to her I can see what she looks like. Very long, light cream colored hair, gray eyes, pale skin with freckles.

"Is your sister in pain?" she asks me unaffected by my staring.

"I don't think so..." Cut off once again.

"You meant that you don't hope she is in pain. And that is something you must know and she must be told," She sighs, "Go tell her what she truly means to you. Tell her what she has always wondered about you. Bond with her until bonding can no longer be accomplished. Make her life worthwhile. She needs you now, and obviously in you coming here to me, you need her."

I was astonished and amazed. I knew what shrine spirits did but this was the first time I had experienced it.

"I will. I'll go now." My voice sounded exited and urgent.

She tilted her head, smirked, and nodded.

I started my decent down the stairs.

"Run!" she yelled to me. So I did.

I made it home just in time. I could smell my mother's cooking. I could see my father walking to the table with the newspaper from this morning. My cats wondering outside to play and my siblings playing in the hall.

I walk in with no problem at all. My family is quite used to me being late because I usually stay after school with my friends to play at the baseball field.

"Welcome home!" my twin sisters, Minami and Hokuto say as I pass them in the hall. I nod to them and go to sit at the table with my dad.

"Is Mei joining us tonight?" I ask my father. I call my little sister Mei so my family is used to it. He puts down his newspaper. "I don't suppose so, do you?"

"No. I guess not"

See more of Story Wars

Login

or

Create new account

She lays in her bed with her window door open wide. She looks pale in the sunlight. She's so fragile like a silk thread, I'm scared to touch her, for I may break her.

I walk out her window door and look at the city in front of me.

After a while I look back in to see that Mei is setting up on her bed looking at me.

"Good morning, Yuuki." She says to me in a cheerful voice.

"You too Mei. But it's not morning, it's evening." I laugh to show my sympathy.

"Oh silly me." She giggles in response.

"You seem well today." I say.

"Of course I am...Why wouldn't I be?"

"No reason. Would you like me to bring you something to eat?" I ask.

"I'll be ok without food." She smiles at me to assure me.

"Okay, if you say so."

We talk for hours about past events and school and family and friends just like we normally do.

"I'm going to take your temperature now. Is that okay?" I ask.

"Perfectly." She says with a cheerful voice.

I take her temperature and it reads two degrees above healthy. I try not to look disappointed so that she won't worry.

I then think of all the things the girl at Kazuno shrine told me. So I start by asking Mei if there is anything that she has ever wanted to know about anything.

She looks confused at the change of subject. "What are you talking about?"

"Is there something that you've always wanted to know?" I ask again.

"Hmmm..." She thinks for a while. "I've always wondered where people go when they fall asleep."

She looks at me with curiosity. "Don't you ever think about that?"

I looked at her for a moment. I had never thought about sleep much at all. I always supposed that you just lay there, where you fell asleep, and didn't do anything but sleep. But Mei has a young heart she must think about these kinds of things all the time. Especially when she is sick, I mean there isn't much else you could do.

"When you fall asleep, and your mind has been taken from the moment's reality, you join the stars in the sky. To light the way to morning and night for the many others who are either

waking up to the morning sun or falling asleep to the milky sky" I say this from the bottom of my heart. I want to help her and now

"That's lovely." She says as

See more of Story Wars

Login

or

Create new account

Chapter 2

Weeks later my sister is well again.

She can walk and eat and go to school. We still talk about things before we go to sleep. It kind of became our thing. She plays with our other siblings more than she even did before she got sick. It feels nice to have her back and healthy.

Now she plays the violin. She's in clubs at school with friends that she says she'll never forget. I'm happy for her and her success.

Speaking of success, Kazuki got in to college and already has a part time job. Minami has a 'wonderful' boyfriend that she hopes to marry and Hokuto found a part time job at Love.Waiting.Cafe and also helps the teachers at school.

I'm doing well also. I starting attending the same high school as my brother did and my older sisters are too. The friends I had in junior high are going there as well and we still meet up at the baseball field after school.

If you ask me I'd say everything stayed pretty much the same. I don't know if that's good or bad.

I was on my way home when a cat ran past me to the train tracks. The bars were down meaning that a train was about to pass through. So I started running. Fast. Faster than I ever remember running.

I jumped and grabbed the cat right before the cat reached the tracks and the train passed. I rolled on the ground, holding the cat in my arms.

The train now gone, I sat up. Looking around me as I slowly let go of the cat. It looked around and stepped to the ground. It circled around to look up at me.

It seemed as if the cat was trying to tell me something. Its eyes were an icy blue color with a hint of gray bordering. It looked at me with curiosity and much appreciation.

We looked at each other for a while, not daring to move. People gathered around us but soon lost interest and walked past us.

I know talking to cats is a little insane but it's not like I cared.

"Are you okay?" I asked the cat.

The cat suddenly blinked, sat up and ran away. It stopped once to look at me. Then continued to run off down the crowded street.

I stood up once the cat had gone. I looked around. I was surprised that I could feel no injuries. I

shrugged off the strangeness of what I had just experienced. Then I carried on walking home.

See more of Story Wars

When I got home the house was empty. I decided to go for a walk.

I left a note on the table just in case my family wonders where I am.

Login

or

Create new account

I walked the river path that led to the lake. I don't know what I was doing but I needed to get my mind off of what had almost happened. What could have happened. That was too much for me, but that cat would've gotten run over. I know I can't tell anyone I did that, because they'd probably call me crazy. And my parents may ground me and say that my life was more important than the cats' life. They'd also say that I would have died so I was being stupid and so on. I keep walking the rivers path until I come upon stairs. They go up, but I'm not sure where they will go. I start the flight up. I don't care where I'm going. I just want to go somewhere. Anywhere.

### Chapter 3:

I make it halfway up the stairs, when I see a shadow walking in the trees around me. It looks like an animal but I'm not sure what animal it could be.

The shadow disappeared as soon as I looked in its direction. Maybe it was my imagination. I finish up the stairs. I look around me. There are trees in every direction. Vines growing up them. I walk forward to take in more of the view.

I see four faded blue posts that have been almost completely covered in vines. There is a wood seat in the middle with soft velvety sheets covering it. This has also been covered by vines. Around the area there are wild flowers growing. And blossom trees blooming all around. I look around again. I see a shimmering light behind some vines that are hanging off some trees. I walk around the wood to the vines and part them to see past.

I can't believe the spectacular view. It's the beginning of spring but still I shiver. Here in front of me is Lake Tsukiko.

I remember visiting the lake with my family when I was younger. And I remember in elementary school my friends and I would go there and play around.

I hear a rustling in the bushes beside the path. I turn to see the cat I saved from before. It looks up and stares at me. It has a pleasant look on its face.

I come down to look it in the eyes. Now I know it's the one from before. Its eyes are filled with curiosity like before by the train tracks. I reach a hand out but before I can touch the cat I hear a soft, sleepy voice say, "Hey, What do you think you're doing?"

In surprise I try to stand up. But I trip on my feet and fall back down. I looked up to see a girl in a white nightgown

See more of Story Wars

Login

or

Create new account

"I'm sorry." I say in a weary voice.

"I'll believe you if you look me in the eye and say it."

So I do as she says, I look at her. She has her arms crossed in a defensive way and to my surprise she wasn't blushing the way I had.

"I-I'm sorry."

"For what?"

"F-for disturbing you and the cat."

"It's fine. And 'The cat' has a name, Hoshi." She unfolds her arms and walks toward me. She extends a hand to me. "Get up."

I grab her hand and pull myself up. "Thanks."

"My pleasure." She giggles. "Are you going to be alright?"

I look her over. My stares seem to wake her up. Well so did my falling over but she looks more wide eyed now.

"Well, will you be?" she asks again, pulling me back to reality.

"Ah, yes, I'll be perfectly fine."

"That's good to hear," she pauses, thinking. "How'd you get here?"

"I walked here. There's a path from my house that leads here."

"Which way is your home?"

I look around trying to find the stairs I went up. I find the vines. I don't remember stepping past them but I suppose I might've sometime. I point towards them, "That way."

"Ah, I see." She pauses to think. "I'll walk you home."

I stare at her in bewilderment. I've never had anyone offer to walk me anywhere. I always offer it to everyone else.

"Uh...I'll take that as a yes." She smiles at me. Her head tilted and nods once.

I've seen this before. I don't know when or where. But I know I saw it.

"Come on, let's get going, it's almost midnight." She walks through the vines. I follow.

As I walk through the vines I see the girl with tears in her eyes.

"Wh-What's wrong?" I ask.

She tries to calm herself and steady her breathing.

"I-I'm fine, it's nothing." She smiles and then she gets up.

We continue walking down the stairs.

"So why were in the forest?" I ask, no longer able to control my curiosity.

"I live there of course" She says.

"In the forest?" I pause to think this over. "I don't get it."

"What's not to get?"

See more of Story Wars

Login

or

Create new account

I think about it. Maybe she's an orphan, or a runaway. Then she just hangs out with her cat friend. "I guess I get it, but where do you get food?"

"I don't eat much because I'm never really hungry. But when I do it's usually fruit from the forest."

"Where do you sleep?"

"There is a place. I can't tell you about it though, sorry. But you might try to see it. It's quite special to me."

"Oh, okay. I understand."

"Thanks."

"No problem." We've made it halfway down the stairs.

"How long have you lived there?"

"All my life." She says. I stop walking. After a while she stops and looks up at me. "What?"

"Nothing."

"No, obviously it's something." She says this interrupting my one word.

"Don't you have a family?"

"Maybe I did at one point, but not anymore. Even if I did they wouldn't want to live near me." She turns and continues walking.

I continue walking also. "Why wouldn't they be near you?"

"I'm not like most people."

"In what way are you different?"

She sighs. "Many ways. I have 'magic', at least that's what the children tell me."

"Oh." I take a moment to go over what she's said to me.

She starts to laugh. I look at her. "Wh-What's so funny?"

"Tell me. Have you ever been to a light festival in March?"

"Uh...No I haven't. Why?"

"Well they are the craziest of all festivals. But you wouldn't have gone to one because they are only in the forests." She looks around her. "They are quite spectacular. Filled with many of the mountain spirits. They sure know how to have a party." She laughs again then looks at me.

"Would you like to go to one?"

I look at her. I'm confused on what she's asking me. "Would you like to go to one?" One what? A light festival, in the forest, in March?

"To the festival."

"If you don't want to go then..."

I run to catch up to her. "Wait, you want me to go to a spring light festival in the forest?"

"Was that not clear?" she asks, eyes looking in front of her.

See more of Story Wars

Login

or

Create new account

“Well okay. I’ll go but where do I go and when?”

She stops in her tracks. “What did you just say?”

“Uh I asked where—”

“No, not that.”

“I said I’ll go.”

She turns and looks at me. Head tilted, she nods. Then she continues walking. “I’ll be on the 21st of March. Just meet me where we met.”

“Okay. I’ll do that.”

We reached the bottom of the stairs. “Which way?” she asks, looking around.

## Write a draft for chapter 2 of 8

 You need to login before writing - [click here](#)

Continue the story

☐ Flag as mature

☐ receive feedback

Submit draft

Write a comment...

[About](#) [Rooms](#) [Feedback](#)   

See more of Story Wars

Login

or

Create new account